

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/025,685

Applicant(s)

DE CNODDER ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Binh Q. Nguyen

2664

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/26/2001.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-19 as numbering 1-19, respectively.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 02/20/2002
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 20050928
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with attorney David J. Cushing (Reg. No. 28,703) on September 29, 2005.
3. The application has been amended as follows:

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Amend the specification by adding the following section heading:

Page 1, before line 5 (after the title), insert the heading:

--Background of the Invention --

Page 3, between lines 17-18 (before the paragraph beginning "An object of"), insert:

--Summary of the Invention --

Page 5, between lines 22-23 (before the paragraph beginning "The objects and features"), insert:

--Brief Description of the Drawing --

Page 6, before the first line (before the paragraph beginning "Figure 1 shows"), insert:

--Detailed Description of the Invention --

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

4. Claims 4, 10, 13, and 17 amended.

5. Claims 1-19 allowed.

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art made of record does not teach in combination of other limitations recited in claims 1, 7, and 14;

a first step by:

updating the current value of each guarantee counter (G.sub.x) by adding the corresponding guarantee increment (IncG.sub.x);

stacking a permit in the guarantee stack (GS) and diminishing the current value of a guarantee counter (G.sub.x) with the guarantee maximum (MaxG.sub.x), if this current value exceeds the guarantee maximum (MaxG.sub.x);

said method being characterised in that the medium access controller (MC) includes also a fair counter (F.sub.x) for each dependant terminal with a determined fair increment (IncF.sub.x) and a fair maximum (MaxF.sub.x) defined for each fair counter, and a fair stack (FS) for storing permits to be forwarded to the network terminals, and in that said method also includes the following two steps for defining and forwarding permits:

a second step by:

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updating the current value of each fair counter (F.sub.x) by adding the corresponding increment (IncF.sub.x);

stacking a permit in the fair stack (FS) and diminishing the current value of a fair counter (F.sub.x) with the fair maximum (MaxF.sub.x), if this current value exceeds the fair maximum (MaxG.sub.x);

a third step to forward a permit by:

forwarding an idle permit, if the guarantee stack (GS) and the fair stack (FS) are both empty;

extracting a permit from the fair stack (FS) and forwarding it, if the guarantee stack (GS) is empty and the fair stack (FS) is not empty;

extracting a permit from the guarantee stack (GS) and forwarding it, if the guarantee stack (GS) is not empty.

7. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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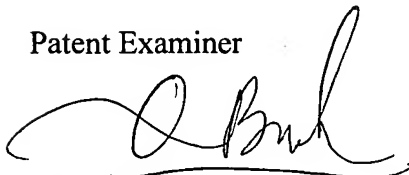
CONTACT INFORMATION

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Binh Q. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-8563. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wellington Chin can be reached on 571-272-3134. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Patent Examiner



Binh Q. Nguyen
09/30/2005



WELLINGTON CHIN
ASSISTANT PATENT EXAMINER